

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 11, 15, and 19 are amended to more clearly define the invention. Claims 1, 11, and 19 are independent.

These amendments are made only to more particularly point out the invention for the Examiner and not for narrowing the scope of the claims or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability.

Applicant also notes that, notwithstanding any claim amendments herein or later during prosecution, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Maruyama reference in view of the Kazumi reference.

This rejection is respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

An exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention as defined by, for example, independent claim 1, is directed to a portable radio telephone that includes a radio section for receiving an input radio signal and/or transmitting an output radio signal, a power supply controller for controlling a supply of electric power to the radio section responsive to reception of a power-off signal, the power-off signal being transmitted from a power-off signal transmitter provided in a prohibited area where use of a portable radio telephone is prohibited, and a power-off signal sensor for sensing reception of the power-off signal to notify the power supply controller of reception of the power-off signal. When the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal, the power supply controller stops the supply of electric power to the radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication function, operable. When the power-off signal sensor does not sense reception of the power-off signal, the power supply controller continues the supply of electric power to the radio section. The additional built-in functions include a telephone directory function. Further, when the power-off signal sensor senses reception of the power-off signal, the power-off signal reception code is stored in the storage and kept unchanged even after the telephone is turned off.

Conventional portable telephones may include a power supply that cuts-off the supply of power upon receipt of a power-off signal. However, these conventional portable

telephones turn off the power to the entire telephone. While these conventional portable telephones obtain the desired effect of cutting-off power from a radio transceiver and/or a sound device, these conventional telephones do not allow a user to access and/or use other devices and/or functions that are included with the portable telephone.

Other conventional portable telephones may include a communication stop key which cuts-off the power supply to the radio transceiver in response to a user's operation of the stop key. These telephones are advantageous over the above-described conventional telephones in that they only cut-off power to those circuits that provide a communication function and, therefore, allow the user to access and/or use non-communication functions. However, these conventional portable telephones do not automatically cut-off power to the communication functions.

In stark contrast, the present invention provides a power supply controller that stops the supply of electric power to the radio section while keeping additional built-in functions, other than a communication function, operable. In this manner, the power is automatically cut-off from the radio section while maintaining power to a device that does not have communications functions (page 4, lines 18-24).

Further, the present invention stores the power-off reception code in a storage that keeps unchanged even after the telephone is turned off (page 15, lines 9-15). In this manner, the present invention is capable of ensuring that power is not provided to a radio section immediately after the power to the telephone is turned on if a power-off reception code is found in the storage (page 16, lines 1-4).

II. THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

The Examiner alleges that the Kazumi reference would have been combined with the Maruyama reference to form the claimed invention. Applicant submits, however, that these references would not have been combined and, even if combined, the combination would not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

None of the applied references teaches or suggests the features of the claimed invention including a power-off signal reception code that is stored in the storage and kept unchanged even after the telephone is turned off. As explained above, this feature is important for ensuring that power is not provided to a radio section immediately after the power is turned on to the telephone if a power-off reception code is stored.

The Maruyama reference very clearly does not teach or suggest this feature. Rather, the Maruyama reference discloses receiving either a disable code or a disable discharge code and switching between a standby mode or a normal mode in response to receiving the code.

The Maruyama reference does not teach or suggest storing anything at all that is kept unchanged after the telephone is turned off (e.g., in a non-volatile memory), let alone storing a power-off signal reception code in a storage and that is kept unchanged even after the telephone is turned off.

The Examiner attempts to allege that the Maruyama reference discloses these features by referring to paragraphs 18-21 and 25-27. However, contrary to the Examiner's allegations, these portions of the Maruyama reference do not teach or suggest a power-off signal reception code that is stored in the storage and kept unchanged even after the telephone is turned off.

In paragraphs 18-21, the Maruyama reference discloses a ROM 13 "in which the program for executing instructions from CPU 12 was stored" and "RAM14 which offers the temporary information storing field and temporary work area at the time of program execution." (emphasis added). These paragraphs merely describe what the personal digital assistant that is disclosed by the Maruyama reference does in response to receiving either a disable code or a disable discharge code. These paragraphs do not teach or suggest storing anything at all in a memory that is unchanged even after a telephone is turned off (e.g. a non-volatile memory), let alone storing a power-off signal reception code signal in such a memory.

The Examiner also refers to paragraphs 25 – 27, however, these paragraphs do not describe the operation of a telephone at all. Rather, paragraphs 25-27 describe the operation of a control station 3, not a telephone ([0023]). In particular, it describes how the control station 3 determines the position of a telephone and, based upon that position, whether the control station sends a disable code or a disable discharge code. Paragraphs 25-27 of the Maruyama reference is completely irrelevant to the operation of a telephone.

The Kazumi reference does not remedy the deficiencies of the Maruyama reference.

Indeed, the Examiner does not allege that the Kazumi reference remedies these deficiencies.

Rather, the Kazumi reference merely discloses storing a mode signal. The mode signal is not a power-off signal reception code that is received by a power-off signal sensor.

Rather, a user is required to manually enter the selected mode.

Further, Applicant submits that these references would not have been combined as alleged by the Examiner. Indeed, the references are directed to completely different matters and problems.

Specifically, the Maruyama reference is concerned with instability by turbulence within a radio-wave-propagation environment that may cause problems in ensuring that a device maintains a standby-mode within a disable area ([0004] - [0006]).

In stark contrast, the Kazumi reference is concerned with the completely different and unrelated problem of enabling a telephone directory function in an area where use of the telephone is prohibited (Abstract).

One of ordinary skill in the art who was concerned with instability by turbulence within a radio-wave-propagation environment that may cause problems in ensuring that a device maintains a standby-mode within a disable area, as the Maruyama reference is concerned, would not have referred to the Kazumi reference, and vice-versa, because the Kazumi reference is concerned with the completely different and unrelated problem of enabling a telephone directory function in an area where use of the telephone is prohibited. Thus, the references would not have been combined.

III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-20, all the claims presently pending in the Application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

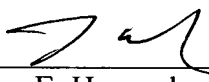
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 12/28/08



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